

### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 1-71 were pending prior to amendment. Claims 1-59 stand allowed. Claims 60-68 stand rejected as allegedly being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 112. It appears that claims 69-71 were not examined; however, Applicant presumes claims 69-71 to stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 as dependent on rejected claim 60.

Please cancel claims 60-71, without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1-59 are therefore in condition for allowance.

#### Objection to the Drawings

The Final Office Action dated December 31, 2008 notes that the drawings filed on April 12, 2005 are objected-to. However, Applicant submitted replacement figures on October 1, 2008, and believes that the objection to the drawing has been rendered moot.

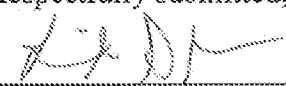
**CONCLUSION**

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed in this paper. However, failure to address a specific rejection, issue, or comment, does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above are not intended to be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

In light of the amendments contained herein, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance, for which early action is requested. Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below.

Please charge any fees or overpayments that may be due with this response to Deposit Account No. 17-0026. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Dated March 2, 2009

Respectfully submitted,  
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